

AGENDA



Thursday, February 14, 2008

**Police
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION****Item No. 21**

Subject: Approve an ordinance amending Chapter 9-4 of the City Code by adding Section 9-4-54 relating to prohibiting the imitation of Austin Police Department Uniforms.

Fiscal Note: A fiscal note is not required.

For More Information: David Carter, Assistant Chief/974-5030

This action amends Chapter 9-4 of the City Code by adding Section 9-4-54 prohibiting any person, other than a sworn police officer of the Austin Police Department, from wearing a uniform, or wearing or displaying a badge that is deceptively similar to the uniform or badge at the time in use by the Austin Police Department (APD).

The Austin Police Department seeks to enhance the public safety by adopting a unique and immediately recognizable uniform for its sworn police officers. By adopting this ordinance, Council will enhance public safety and minimize public confusion by preserving APD's unique uniform for wear only by its sworn officers.

The APD uniform and badge are associated with the full legal authority of a duly recognized police officer to immediately act upon police matters and provide police services to the public within the City of Austin. Persons found in violation of this ordinance are subject to being charged with a Class C misdemeanor.